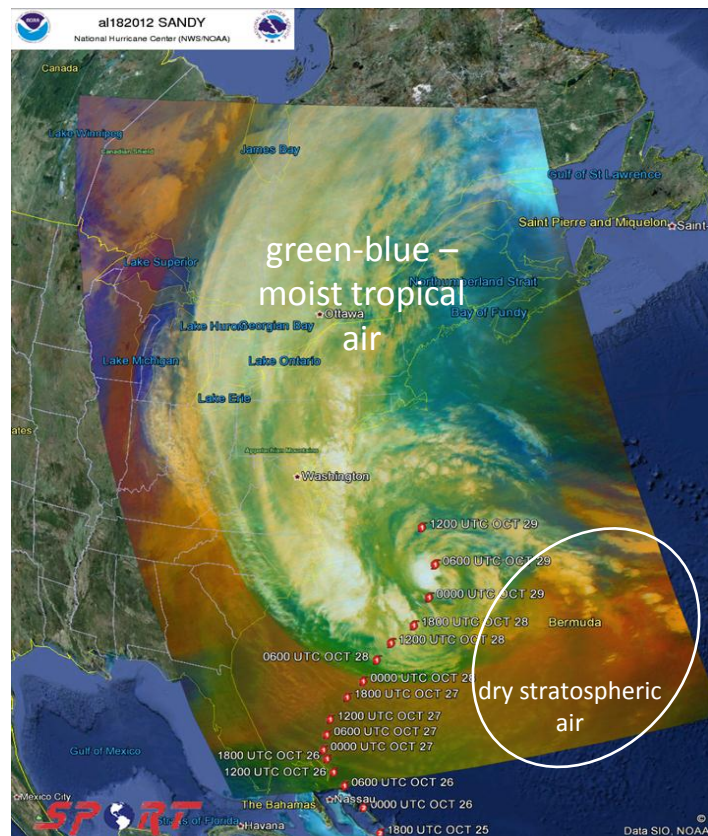


NASA Short-term Prediction Research and Transition (SPoRT) project has been transitioning data to the NWS from Terra and Aqua satellites for several years and has recently added data from the Suomi NPP satellite. Derived products from MODIS and VIIRS help forecasters monitor hazardous weather events like Hurricane Sandy.



MODIS RGB composite image from October 29, 2012 @0258UTC indicating dry stratospheric air (orange) from a troposphere fold getting tangled with Sandy adding to the complexity of forecasting its continued development.

NWS Scientists blog about use of VIIRS products from SPoRT to monitor Hurricane Sandy

GOES-R and JPSS National Centers Perspective
The future of weather satellites!

ABOUT

Posted by kromer on October 28, 2012

VIIRS imagery of Sandy

Posted in: RGB, VIIRS. Leave a Comment

As we are in full preparation mode in the DC/Baltimore area, I thought I would share a couple very interesting VIIRS images with you, courtesy of CIMSS at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and NASA SPoRT, through a joint project with JPSS. Sandy's track forecast hasn't changed much and I think I've covered the threats in the last few posts. Now let's focus on where we are as of the last 24 hours.

The image shows a VIIRS RGB Air Mass image of Hurricane Sandy, with a red line indicating the very dry air at high altitude that is cutting into Sandy's tropical environment. The image is credited to 'SPoRT' and 'Google Earth'.

The Suomi NPP VIIRS RGB Air Mass image using Google Earth valid yesterday, 10/27/12. Image courtesy of NASA SPoRT.

The VIIRS RGB Air Mass image above from yesterday shows the very high resolution of the VIIRS instrument when analyzing a complex storm such as Sandy. Everything to the right of the red line is very dry air at high altitude that is cutting into Sandy's tropical environment. What is the source region for this dry air? Believe it or not, it is most likely due to stratospheric dry air from an old upper low in the Western Caribbean that got tangled up with Sandy. The dry air is introduced through something called a tropopause fold. All this means is that this feature introduces a non-tropical air mass into a tropical air mass, hence the hybrid, half storm look on satellite.

Recent Posts

- VIIRS imagery of Sandy
- Sandy the Troublemaker, pt 4: the phasing legend
- Overnight "Visible" View of Sandy
- What to do with Sandy, Pt. III – the saga continues!
- What to do with Sandy, Pt. II?

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transitioning research data to the operational weather community

